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A REVISION OF LIBEL LAWS.

All really meritorious laws are born of the need of them and not of a fanciful conjecture that they may sometime be needed and will then be convenient to have around. Such laws, however, should be made to be of use and not of any other purpose. They should be made to be of use and not of any other purpose. They should be made to be of use and not of any other purpose.

The Review was the winner of a libel suit but the victory was won at great expense. It believes therefore, that while newspapers should be held responsible for utterance which turn out to be libelous, they should be made to smart for it. It also believes that they should be protected against annoyance by persons who could not be libeled. The Review's plan contemplates imposing some risk upon those who begin these annoying actions. If it shall be found that they are not well founded, or if the alleged libelous publications are proved to be true, the defendant may have recourse in counter claims for damages.

Nothing could be fairer than that. That arrangement would stop many a libel suit but it could get under way and the reputations of persons would be protected against libelous assaults as well as they are now.

We think the Review's plan might be improved upon, but we are not sure that the improvement could be put into a law that would stand the test of the courts. Anyway, it would involve a violent change in the present procedure. We would have it like this. In case of a libel suit for defamation of character, if it should be proved that the alleged defamatory article were true, and further if it amounted to charging the plaintiff with a criminal act, the evidence at the trial should be regarded as having convicted the plaintiff of the crime charged in the offending publication.

The justice of this program will be readily admitted, but it would disarrange our penal code to such an extent that we have little hope of its adoption. The Review's method will fairly well meet all requirements.

THE SHIP SUBSIDY BILL.

Though the house committee on merchant marine at last agreed upon a ship subsidy bill, there is so far little assurance that it will become a law. Last winter a ship subsidy bill passed the senate but not the one agreed upon. The Littauer bill is quite a different measure and may not be expected to appeal to all senators who favored the original bill. The Littauer bill, though not all that the administration desired, contains the most that the administration wants, a stimulus of our South American trade. Opposition to a ship subsidy bill in any form may be expected from the west and the middle west regardless of party, though the republican opposition in that region will not be solid.

There is a prevalent opinion that the benefit if any, which would follow, would not be equitably distributed geographically, and there is still another opinion that the additional trade developed would stand the nation too high. There is too, the ever-present fear that the purpose of the law is not to serve the many but the few. A subsidy for any purpose is moreover unpopular.

So, notwithstanding the confidence Americans have in Secretary Root, and his intimate knowledge of South American conditions, gained on his re-

cent visit, it will be with the greatest difficulty that they will be convinced that the country or at least all parts of it, would be benefited by any form of a ship subsidy bill.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TWIN BUTTES CO.

Report That the Capital Stock is to Be Increased to \$2,000,000. Property in Good Condition.

The greater part of last week was consumed by the directors of the Twin Buttes Mining and Railroad Co. in preparing for and holding the annual meeting of the corporation. It was finally accomplished though a complete report has not yet reached here. The meeting was of considerable moment to Southern Arizona for the Twin Buttes is a big proposition and beside a big mine it operates a railroad thirty-three miles long. The Tucson Citizen announced that some things might be done other than the incidents of a formal meeting, though just what they would be was not made known. Following is the report of the proceedings as given to date in the Citizen of Thursday afternoon.

At the meeting of the directors of the Twin Buttes Mining and Railroad Co. held this forenoon at the Santa Rita hotel, Mayor D. S. Rose, of Milwaukee, was re-elected president of the company.

The other officers chosen were as follows: First vice president, E. T. Davis, of Philadelphia; second vice president, Robert Nunnemacher, of Milwaukee, who was also chosen railroad trustee; secretary, H. J. Blakeley, of Tucson; assistant secretary, F. E. Geiffuss, of Milwaukee.

The complete list of directors as chosen by the stockholders and announced last night is as follows: D. S. Rose, E. P. Hackitt, Robert Nunnemacher, Julius Frank, Samuel D. Adler, all of Milwaukee; W. A. Barber, of Waldo Wis.; E. T. Davis and Felix Isman, of Philadelphia; and John A. Baxter, of Tucson.

There were three changes in the directorate, due to the retirement of Dr. William Barlow, Dr. J. B. Hill and W. G. Barber, all of Milwaukee. The new directors are Julius Frank and Samuel D. Adler, prominent Milwaukee capitalists, and Felix Isman, a capitalist of Philadelphia.

The board of directors is composed of men who are well known in the financial world.

The directors held a session this forenoon and elected their officers. Adjournment was then taken until 2:30 o'clock this afternoon when a second session was held which was still on at the time of going to press.

There is much speculation as to what may be done at the directors' meeting this afternoon. There have been a number of reports in circulation as to probable action but it has been impossible to confirm any of them.

There is one report to the effect that the capital stock of the company will be increased \$1,500,000. This would make the total capitalization \$2,000,000 as the present capitalization is \$1,250,000. It is understood that all the stock of the present capitalization has been issued.

A capitalization of \$2,000,000 for a mining company is not above the average. In this instance in addition to their mining property the Twin Buttes own a railroad from Tucson to Twin Buttes, which is of standard gauge and 33 miles in length. This railroad cost fully a half million dollars.

Another report that is on the streets is to the effect that a stock issue will not be made at the present time but that a special meeting will be called later in Milwaukee at which time this matter will be taken up.

However, neither one of the reports could be confirmed and they are but part of the gossip that is going the rounds.

A report that is generally believed states that the Twin Buttes will undoubtedly select a mining engineer to be added to their staff. The property has assumed such proportion that a mining engineer who is thoroughly familiar with deep workings will soon be an absolute necessity, it is said.

It is known that at a meeting of the stockholders a report was read on the property of L. C. Parker, who is a mining engineer well known through Arizona and Montana. The report was highly pleasing to the stockholders.

The reports of the officers for the past year were also very pleasing and the stockholders expressed satisfaction with the conduct of the affairs of the company in the past year.

While the stockholders were in session yesterday afternoon Twin Buttes tumbled six cents per share and caused some uneasiness on the part of a number of persons who had bought on margin.

The officials of the company stated today that they knew nothing about the fall in the price and added that they were not interested in stock speculation.

The stock rallied today and went from 73 to 74 cents per share. It was at 75 when the sudden decline came to 73 cents. This is explained by some as being due to speculation in Milwaukee and to incorrect reports that might have been circulated previous to the meeting. Twin Buttes is a lively stock in Milwaukee and there is considerable speculation on margins there.

Cookley—It's a funny thing that a man's youngest photograph is his oldest.

Joukley—Yes; but then, on the other hand, his oldest photograph is his newest.—Philadelphia Press.

NEVER MIND

what brought on your 'spell of stomach trouble' but just get a bottle of the Bitters at once. You will notice its beneficial results from the start and that before long your ailments have disappeared.

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KIPLING A LA CODE.

John Kendrick Bangs, writing in the fiftieth anniversary number of Harper's Weekly apropos of his experience as a recent editor of that periodical, tells of an editorial crisis which, he confesses, was about the most difficult he ever had to deal with. An arrangement, it appears, had been made with a London newspaper by which the Weekly was to enjoy the distinction of presenting to American readers the reflections of Mr. Rudyard Kipling upon the African situation. "The Weekly" for that issue had already been made up, full to overflowing, and was for the most part of the press, when the first of Mr. Kipling's blasts arrived—by cable. Three thousand solid words of portentous import—on an inch of space in which to place them, and the copy-right loss unless used at once! That problem was easily solved by a resort to a four-page supplement, suitably embellished with illustrations; but the other question, as to what the three thousand words meant, that was an editorial poser, for every word of the article came over the cable without a capital, a comma, a period, or even a semicolon from start to finish, plus the inevitable errors in phonology in transmission. I yield to no man in my admiration for the genius of Rudyard Kipling, and I would cheerfully have vigilance committee whose avowed object is the skinning of the Yale professor who recently announced in a lecture that Mr. Kipling made a mistake in getting well after his distressing illness in 1899, but I frankly confess that I hope never again to have to edit one of his cable stories. It required a genius equal to his own so to capitalize and punctuate that article that it would read like the real thing, and I doubt if I succeeded. I never dared to read the article after it was published, and my associate read the proofs, so that to this day I am not aware whether or not I got the story straight.

HIS CANDID OPINION.

Mrs. Grouch—Gus, dear, would I look better in this jacket if I were taken in at the waist or would you have it made straight?

Mr. Grouch—I'd like to see you in a straightjacket.—Philadelphia Press.

That our American forests abound in plants which possess the most valuable medicinal virtues is abundantly attested by scores of the most eminent medical writers and teachers. Even the untutored Indians had discovered the usefulness of many native plants before the advent of the white race. This information, imparted freely to the whites, led the latter to continue investigations until to-day we have a rich assortment of most valuable American medicinal roots.

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Not less marvelous in the unparalleled cure it is constantly making of woman's many peculiar affections, weaknesses and depressing derangements, is Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, as is amply attested by thousands of cured testimonials contributed by grateful patients who have been cured by it of catarrhal pelvic diseases, painful periods, irregularities, prolapse and other displacements caused by weakness, ulceration of uterus and kindred affections, often after many other advertised medicines and physicians had failed.

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